



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Takayuki Takahashi et al.  
Serial No. : 10/673,993  
Filed : September 29, 2003  
TC/A.U. :  
Examiner :

Confirmation No.:

Docket No. : 03-616  
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit the documents listed hereinbelow, copies enclosed.

- (1) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 2001-168482 (published on June 22, 2001). This patent is in Japanese however an English abstract is attached.
- (2) Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. 52-37914 (published on March 24, 1977). This patent is in Japanese however an English abstract is attached.

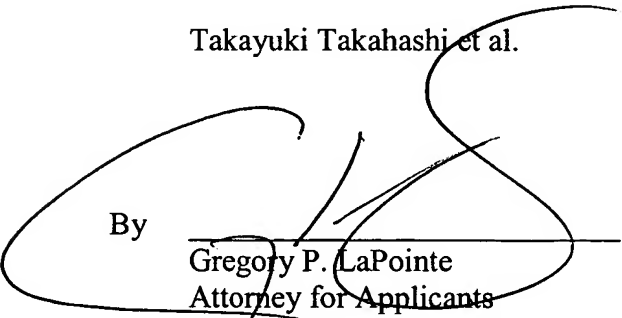
The undersigned submits the above-identified references for independent consideration by the Examiner and does not make any admission that these references are or are not material to

the present invention or that these references are or are not prior art with respect to the present invention.

Respectfully submitted,

Takayuki Takahashi et al.

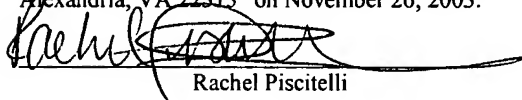
By



Gregory P. LaPointe  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No.: 28,395  
Tel: (203) 777-6628  
Fax: (203) 865-0297

Date: November 26, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 26, 2003.



Rachel Piscitelli

